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Voluntary - Public

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Kazakhstan - Republic of

Post: Astana

Draft SPS Measure on Hides and Skins Notified to WTO

Report Categories:

WTO Notifications

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

FAIRS Subject Report

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Report Highlights:

On May 8, 2019, Kazakhstan notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of draft amendments to the Unified Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) veterinary requirements for hides, skins and similar animal origin materials, as well as to the respective veterinary certificate via G/SPS/N/KAZ/38. In particular, the changes would relax EAEU requirements for anthrax testing and simplify requirements for curing (preservation) of the respective animal origin materials. This report contains an unofficial translation of the notified document. The public comment period for the draft will close on July 7, 2019. Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with USDA's enquiry point (us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov). For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments by June 24, 2019.

General Information

The Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), which is the regulatory body of the Armenia-Belarus-Kazakhstan-Kyrgyzstan-Russia [Eurasian Economic Union](#) (EAEU), published the following draft documents on its website:

- [On Amending Chapter 33 of the Unified Veterinary \(Veterinary and Sanitary\) Requirements for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control \(Surveillance\)](#)
- [On Amending Decision of the Customs Union Commission No. 607 of April 7, 2011](#)

On May 8, 2019, Kazakhstan notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of the above draft measures via [G/SPS/N/KAZ/38](#). The public comment period for the documents will close on July 7, 2019.

Interested U.S. parties are encouraged to share their comments and/or concerns with USDA's enquiry point (us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov). For potential inclusion in the U.S. official position, please send your comments by June 24, 2019.

According to the EAEU explanatory note, the amendments would remove excessive requirements for anthrax testing in order to comply with the international standards. Additionally, the EAEU requirements for curing (preservation) of hides, skins, and similar animal origin materials will be simplified by allowing exporting country practices rather than invoking international standards in the respective provision. Finally, one of the amendments would implement agreements reached with the competent authorities of the European Union on the language regarding pre-export certificates. Please find below an unofficial English translation of the proposed measures.

BEGIN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION:

**EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION
COLLEGIUM**

DECISION

_____ 20____ No. _____ city

**On Amending Chapter 33 of the Unified Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Requirements
for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Supervision)**

In accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 58 of the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union of May 29, 2014, and paragraph 22 of Annex No. 2 to the Rules of Procedure of the Eurasian Economic Commission approved by Decision of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council No. 98 of December 23, 2014, the Collegium of the Eurasian Economic Commission **has resolved:**

1. To amend Chapter 33 of the Unified Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Requirements for Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Supervision), approved by Decision of the Customs Union Commission No. 317 of June 18, 2010, as follows:

a) paragraph twelve shall be replaced with the following paragraphs:

“Hides and sheep pelt raw materials must be of slaughter origin and obtained from animals that were subjected to ante-mortem veterinary examination, while carcasses and internal organs were subjected to the full post-mortem veterinary and sanitary inspection and released to the market without limitations.

Combined lambskin and fur raw materials must be tested for anthrax.”

b) in paragraph fourteen the words “international requirements” shall be replaced with the words “requirements of the exporting country”

2. The present Decision shall come into effect after 30 calendar days from its official publication.

Chairman of the Collegium
Of the Eurasian Economic Commission

T. Sargsyan

**EURASIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION
COLLEGIUM**

DECISION

_____ 20____ No. _____ city

On Amending Decision of Customs Union Commission No. 607 of April 7, 2011

In accordance with paragraph 17 of the Protocol on the Application Sanitary, Veterinary and Sanitary, and Quarantine Phytosanitary Measures (Annex No. 12 to the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union of May 29, 2014) and paragraph 19 of Annex No. 2 to the Rules of Procedure of the Eurasian Economic Commission approved by Decision of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council No. 98 of December 23, 2014, the Collegium of the Eurasian Economic Commission **has resolved:**

1. To amend the veterinary certificate for hides, horn and hoof, intestinal, fur, sheep pelt and lambskin raw materials, wool and goat fluff, bristle, horse hair, down and feather of chicken, duck, goose and other poultry, exported to the customs territory of the Eurasian Economic Union (form No. 32), provided for by decision of the Customs Union Commission No. 607 of April 7, 2011, as follows:

a) item 4 after the words “pre-export certificates” shall be supplemented with the sign “*”;

b) first paragraph of item 4.1 shall read as follows:

“Hides, horn and hoof, intestinal, fur, sheep pelt and lambskin raw materials, wool and goat fluff, bristle, horse hair, down and feather of chicken, duck, goose and other poultry, exported to the customs territory of the Eurasian Economic Union, were obtained from healthy animals (birds) from the farms that are officially free from contagious diseases of respective animals. The raw materials originate from the farms that are free from contagious diseases of susceptible animal (bird) species.”;

c) item 4.2 shall read as follows:

“4.2. Hides and sheep pelt raw materials are of slaughter origin and have been obtained from animals that were subjected to ante-mortem veterinary examination, and carcasses and internal organs were subjected to the full post-mortem veterinary and sanitary inspection and released to the market without limitations.

Combined lambskin and fur raw materials have been tested for anthrax.”

d) in item 4.5 the words “international requirements” shall be replaced with the words “requirements of the exporting country”;

e) to add the following foot-note:

“*” For the European Union member states. With that, a pre-export certificate is an accompanying document (official certificate), issued by the certifying official of the competent authority of the European Union member state for movement in the territory of the European Union and confirming that the goods indicated therein that are subject to veterinary control (supervision), meet the veterinary and sanitary requirements of the Eurasian Economic Union.”

2. The present Decision shall come into effect after 30 calendar days from its official publication.

Chairman of the Collegium
Of the Eurasian Economic Commission

T. Sargsyan

END UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION.